

Message Text

SECRET

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61

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 AID-20 CU-04 DPW-01

DRC-01 /152 W

----- 113769

R 291125Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8609

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

S E C R E T BANGKOK 18590

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PGOV, MOPS, LA, TH

SUBJECT: PRESS HANDLING OF REDEPLOYMENT OF THAI

VOLUNTEER UNITS IN LAOS

REF: A. BANGKOK 14306

B. BANGKOK 15264

C. BANGKOK 18046

D. BANGKOK 18295

E. FBIS BANGKOK D240358Z

1. GENERAL VITTOON'S RECENT STATEMENTS TO THE PRSS ON THAI VOLUNTEERS (SGU'S) HAVE SPREAD ON THE PUBLIC RECORD INFORMATION GOING SUBSTANTIALLY BEYOND THE Q'S AND A'S (REF A) FOR WHICH WE HAVE REQUESTED WASHINGTON COORDINATION (REF B).

2. TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN NO LOCAL PUBLIC OR PRESS REACTION TO VITTOON'S STATEMENTS. IF QUERIED, WE BELIEVE WE SHOULD CONFIRM VITTOON'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE PROGRAM BUT AVOID BEING DRAWN INTO DETAILED DISCUSSIONS. HOWEVER, INSOFAR AS US SPOKESMEN MAY BE REQUIRED TO ADDRESS THESE SUBJECTS OFF THE RECORD OR ON BACKGROUND, WE SUGGEST THAT WE SHOULD BE PREPARED TO CONFIRM THOSE ELEMENTS

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OF THE VITTOON STORIES WHICH ARE ESSENTIALLY CORRECT.

3. VITOON HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO US THAT HE COULD NOT REFUSE TO ANSWER NEWSMEN'S QUERIES REGARDING RUMORS HERE THAT THAI VOLUNTEERS HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN THE OCTOBER STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT, EITHER TO SUPPRESS THE STUDENTS OR AS AGENTS PROVOCATEURS. HE WAS ALSO AWARE THAT CONSIDERABLE INFORMATION HAD BEEN RELEASED IN THE US (HAVING IN MIND PARTICULARLY LAST JUNE'S LOWENSTEIN-MOOSE REPORT, WHICH WAS FEATURED IN BANGKOK PAPERS).

4. WE HAVE CLARIFIED TO VITOON THAT US FUNDING FOR THE THAI VOLUNTEERS WILL END JUNE 30, 1974, NOT SEPTEMBER 30 AS ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED BY THE BANGKOK NATION (REF E). KINTNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BANGKO18590
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973116/aaaaaegj.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
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EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PGOV, MOPS, LA, TH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005